## **REMARKS**

Via the foregoing amendments, claims 3-6 are amended in order to delete the multiple dependent claim format, and reduce the concomitant filing fee therefor.

Entry and consideration of this Preliminary Amendment are respectfully requested, and an examination on the merits in due course is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven M. Gruskin

Registration No. 36,818

**SUGHRUE MION, PLLC** 

Telephone: (202) 293-7060 Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: July 16, 2004